

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Policy on Long-Term Availability of Sewer Services  
to Certain portions of East County

**Policy  
Number**

I-107

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**Purpose**

To establish an interim policy assuring the long-term availability of sewer services and to encourage infilling of certain portions of East County consistent with the County's land use plans.

**Background**

The overall goal of the Regional Land Use Element of the County General Plan is to accommodate population growth; influence its distribution in order to protect and use scarce resources wisely; to preserve the natural environment; and provide adequate public facilities and services efficiently and equitably. In addition, urban growth is to be directed to areas within or adjacent to existing urban areas, and the rural setting and lifestyle of the remaining areas of the County be retained.

The Spring Valley Sanitation District, along with the Otay Water District, have coordinated their efforts to provide additional sewerage capability within their service boundaries. This Board policy has been adopted as a mitigating measure for the Rancho San Diego Interceptor. In order to use this interceptor to assure long-term availability of sewer services to appropriately urbanizing areas and to prevent the untimely introduction of service to areas beyond the urban limit line, the following policy statements shall apply to service requests within the areas served by Rancho San Diego interceptor.

**Policy**

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

1. Future service from the Rancho San Diego interceptor will only be extended to areas within the Urban Limit Line. Failing septic systems as defined by the County Department of Health Services, will be excluded from this restriction and will be allowed to connect. The Spring Valley Sanitation District shall not provide sewer service outside the urban limit line contained in the San Diego County General Plan, and only the Board of Supervisors will serve as the approving authority for projects that require the extension of sewer service outside the urban limit line of the General Plan. Exceptions to this prohibition may be approved if the following finding is made: That sewer service is needed to protect the public health and safety.

2. In evaluating requests for use of the Rancho San Diego interceptor beyond 2.9 MGD, the following factors shall be considered:

- a. The availability of Metro capacity;

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b. The need for service hookups within the Urban Limit Line plus the needs of failing septic systems beyond the Urban Limit Line; and

c. Whether such service enhancement would be growth inducing.

3. The County of San Diego shall review all proposed capital projects for sewer system improvements submitted by all agencies using the Rancho San Diego interceptor.

4. In the community plan updates for the Valle de Oro, Crest-Dehesa-Harbison Canyon, and Jamul-Dulzura areas phasing the use of the capacity in the Rancho San Diego interceptor may be considered. It is intended that the sewer line shall not be utilized at full capacity until (a) Metrocapacity is obtained; and (b) the urban limit line is extended.

5. The Spring Valley Sanitation District shall monitor its sewage capacity to assure that it does not exceed its current capacity contract with the City of San Diego for treatment at the metro facility. The standard use for calculating capacity shall be 250 GPD per equivalent dwelling unit unless it can be proven that actual use is higher.

6. Districts within the Rancho San Diego interceptor service area will only serve areas within those portions of their district for which LAFCO has approved active powers, except for sewer service needed to protect the public health and safety.

7. A letter of sewer availability will not be requested nor accepted for projects which include lands that are located outside the urban limit line.

8. The Spring Valley Sanitation District shall not enter into out-of-district service/construction agreements with private property owners.

**Sunset Date**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-96.

**Board Action**

11-12-86 (No. 1 Spring Valley)

4-8-87 (5)

12-12-89 (49)

5-22-90 (80)

3-13-91 (2)

**CAO Reference**

1. Department of Health Services

2. Department of Public Works

3. Department of Planning and Land Use

4. Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)